

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF STATE ON THE PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY ASSEMBLY IN THE UNITED STATES, 1935

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

WITH RECOMMENDATION FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WITH AN ACCOMPANYING PAPER, ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY, WHICH WILL HOLD ITS SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1935

FEBRUARY 20, 1935.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed

To the Congress of the United States:

I commend to the favorable consideration of the Congress the enclosed report from the Secretary of State, with an accompanying paper, to the end that legislation may be enacted providing for an annual appropriation of \$10,000 for the payment of the share of this Government in the expenses of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History and requesting the President to invite the Pan American Institute of Geography and History to hold its second general assembly in the United States in 1935, and providing an appropriation of \$10,000 for the expenses of such a meeting.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 20, 1935.*

STATE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 19, 1935.

THE PRESIDENT,
The White House.

SIR: The undersigned, the Secretary of State, has the honor to recommend that the Congress be requested to enact legislation pro-

viding for an annual appropriation of \$10,000 for the payment of the share of this Government in the expenses of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History; to request the President to invite the Pan American Institute of Geography and History to hold its second general assembly in the United States in 1935, and to provide an appropriation of \$10,000 for the expenses of such a meeting.

There is attached hereto a statement containing the history of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History.

Membership of the United States in the Institute would be desirable as the Institute will provide an international agency for the collection, coordination, and dissemination of geographical and historical information which will be of value to numerous organs of the Government of the United States, scientific organizations, educational institutions, and interested scholars.

This is the first organization of a Pan American character to be established in Mexico. The Mexican Government has made generous provision for the Institute including the erection of an appropriate and handsome building for its use. The next meeting of the assembly of the Institute is scheduled to take place in Washington in 1935. It is believed that Mexico as well as the other members of the Pan American Union would view with great gratification the support of the Institute by the United States.

Respectfully,

CORDELL HULL.

DRAFT OF JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for membership of the United States in the Pan American Institute of Geography and History; and to authorize the President to extend an invitation for the next general assembly of the Institute to meet in the United States in 1935, and to provide an appropriation for expenses thereof.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That to enable the United States to become a member of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated annually the sum of \$10,000 for the payment of the quota of the United States.

Sec. 2. That the President be, and he is hereby, requested to extend to the Pan American Institute of Geography and History an invitation to hold the second general assembly of the Institute in the United States in the year 1935;

Sec. 3. That the sum of \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the expenses of such a meeting, including personal services without reference to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; stenographic reporting and other services by contract if deemed necessary, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., Title 4, Sec. 5); rent, travelling expenses; purchase of necessary books and documents; newspapers and periodicals; stationery; official cards; printing and binding; entertainment; hire, maintenance, and operation of motor-propelled passenger vehicles; and such other expenses as may be actually and necessarily incurred by the Government of the United States by reason of such invitation in the observance of proper courtesies, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of State.

MEMORANDUM, PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

A geographical and historical congress to organize an international bureau for the compilation of data on explorations was proposed by several South American countries as long ago as 1903. This congress was not held, but a geographical congress met at Buenos Aires in 1924, and a similar one at Asuncion, Paraguay, in 1926.

The idea of creating a "geographical institute" with Spanish as its official language was proposed by Mexico and considered by the Sixth International Conference of American States at Habana in 1928. After discussion of the matter, a resolution and a project of statutes were adopted and, the name of Geographical Institute was changed to the Pan American Institute of Geography and History. The resolution adopted by the conference at Habana reads as follows:

The Sixth International Conference of American States,

Resolves: 1. To create the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, which shall serve for the coordination, distribution, and publication of geographical and historical studies in the American States.

2. The Pan American Institute of Geography and History shall serve as an organ of cooperation between the geographical and historical institutes of America in order to facilitate the study of the problems which concern geography and history.

3. It shall initiate and coordinate investigations which require the cooperation of several countries, and shall direct scientific discussions.

4. It shall be entrusted with the publication of all works the American States may send to it.

5. It shall make studies looking to the clarification of frontier questions, provided all countries directly interested in said questions so request.

6. It shall be charged with the organization of a great archive of historical maps and documents relative to America and also of a library of matters relevant to the institute.

7. The Pan American Institute of Geography and History shall be formed by all the American States represented through a delegation named by each Government. Each delegation shall be entitled to one vote.

8. The seat of the institute shall be the capital of any American State chosen by the Pan American Union. The government of the American State which accepts the locating of the institute in its capital shall provide a building appropriate for the labors hereinbefore enunciated which it must perform.

9. The institute shall be financially supported through annual quotas to be fixed by the assembly of the institute itself with the approval of the respective Governments.

10. The languages used in the publications and in the meetings of the institute shall be the languages of the Pan American Union, namely, Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese.

11. A national committee shall be created in each of the American States which adhere to the Institute. Priority in forming its own committee shall be given to the governments of each of the States, but in case a State fails to do so the committee shall be named by the general assembly.

The Sixth International Conference of American States also resolved to recommend to the governments of the American States certain statutes for the governing of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, which statutes were adopted at Mexico City, at the preliminary assembly, modified at Rio de Janeiro at the first general assembly, and appear further on in this history as finally adopted.

The committee, composed of the Ministers of Panama, Guatemala, and Bolivia, accredited to the American Government, which was appointed by the governing board of the Pan American Union to study the manner of carrying the preceding resolutions into effect, recommended the designation of Mexico City as the seat of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History. The governing board accepted the suggestion. A preliminary general assembly was called by the Mexican Government to meet at Mexico City in August 1928 for the purpose of organizing the Institute. The United States was invited to attend and was represented by Lawrence Martin, Chief, Division of Maps, Library of Congress; George B. Winton, professor of history, Vanderbilt University; and William Bowie, director of

geodesy, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, at the meeting which actually convened on September 16, 1929.

At the close of the preliminary assembly of the Institute which was held in Mexico City in 1929 Señor Pedro C. Sanchez, director of the Institute, issued a report covering the work of the organization up to that time. He stated that preliminary organization had been completed and that the Mexican Government had placed an appropriate and handsome building at the disposal of the Institute which had been especially constructed and furnished for the purpose.

The budget of the Institute as accepted by the assembly at Mexico City provided for a total budget of \$52,000, of which the United States was to contribute \$31,750. The first assembly of the Institute which was held in Rio de Janeiro in 1932 reduced the annual budget to \$27,900, the details of which will be explained later in this report.

At the first assembly the United States were represented by Hon. Edwin V. Morgan, Ambassador to Brazil, and Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, geographer, president of Clark University, Worcester, Mass. These representatives had instructions as follows:

This Government, not being a member of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, has been invited to the first assembly by courtesy of the Brazilian Government, and has accepted because of its sympathy with the general aim of the Institute, but feels that adherence by the United States should await revision of the statutes adopted at the preliminary assembly in 1929. The following points have accordingly been agreed upon in consultation with the National Research Council, as the basis of any view which the American representatives may be called upon to express informally:

1. The scope of the Institute should be more concretely defined, and its scientific program should contemplate international rather than domestic projects.
2. It is felt that the financial program should be more modest, not exceeding a total budget of some \$25,000.
3. It is also felt that the proportion of the budget devoted to running expenses should be reduced to not more than 20 percent of the total.
4. Provision should be made for the proper auditing of accounts.
5. The quota proposed for this Government, set in 1929 at more than 61 percent of the total, should be readjusted in such a way that no country would bear so high a proportion of the total.

If the above points were satisfactorily met the Department would be willing to consider recommending membership to Congress; but it should be borne in mind that the recommendation might not be accepted.

In a telegram dated December 30, 1932, the American delegates requested authority to invite the next congress to assemble in the United States. They were instructed as follows:

In the absence of specific authorization by Congress and provision of funds for the expenses thereof this Government is unable to invite the Institute to hold its next meeting in this country.

While this Government of course would not object to the meeting being held here, and every appropriate facility would be granted, we hope it would be thoroughly understood that no responsibility could be undertaken respecting the arrangements for, or the conduct of, the meeting and that no funds which could be used in connection therewith are available.

You are also reminded for your information that this Government has not yet become a member of the Institute.

Notwithstanding the facts as above indicated, at the plenary session on December 30, 1932, the city of Washington was selected as the place of the next meeting to be held in 1935, and Dr. Atwood was chosen executive president for 3 years. In accepting the office he stated that he was without instructions from his Government but that on behalf of the many scientific societies which he represented,

he voiced their desire to cooperate toward making the next meeting a success.

The assembly recognizing the propriety of the wishes of the United States accepted certain alterations in the statutes proposed by the committee of which Dr. Atwood was chairman, as well as modifications in the budget of expenses.

The modified statutes read as follows:

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. The Pan American Institute of Geography and History will be ruled by a president, two vice presidents, and two voters, all together forming the executive committee. The assembly will also designate a director of the Institute, who will be an experienced official, and an assistant director, who will serve as secretary of the executive committee.

In the absence of the president, the vice presidents, in the order of their election, will substitute. The assembly will also appoint substitute voters as it deems necessary, and they will act in the absence of the regular voters, in the same order already mentioned. The assistant director will substitute the director in case of absence.

Besides his work of investigation and coordination, the director will be responsible for the administration of the funds, the writing of the minutes, and the preparation and distribution of the publications authorized by the general assembly. He will attend the meetings of the executive committee with the purpose of giving information, and will have the right to speak but not to vote.

ART. 2. The president, the two vice presidents, and the voters and their substitutes must belong to different States. They will occupy office all the time between two meetings of the general assembly.

ART. 3. The general assembly will be formed by the delegates or representatives of each one of the American States. Delegates and representatives of scientific institutions, invited by the Governments of the different States, can attend the meetings of the assembly and present papers.

ART. 4. The general assembly will indicate the time and place of meeting of the next assembly. Assemblies shall be held every 3 years.

ART. 5. The executive committee will see that the decisions of the general assembly are followed by each one of the American States. It has the right to address the Governments of those States through the history and geography agencies or to follow the procedure of State to State intercourse, as it sees fit to do.

ART. 6. The executive committee has the right to appoint special committees to study any subject under its jurisdiction or related to the general assembly.

ART. 7. The president or the committee has the right to invite to collaborate with their work, or the work of the general assembly, any American scientist, regardless of whether he is a delegate.

ART. 8. The executive committee shall present to each American State an annual report of the development of the work and of the receipts and expenditures of the Institute. A similar report shall be submitted for its approval to each meeting of the general assembly.

ART. 9. The executive committee is authorized to appoint as many employees as the good government of the Institute requires and it shall try to make these appointments from citizens of the different States which are members of the Institute. The president can indicate to the general assembly the convenience of increasing the annual dues, or can ask for special dues for the execution of any work of great importance and urgency, when the Government of the American State where the work is to be done cannot defray the expense.

ART. 10. The Institute shall be composed of the following sections:

Geography.—First section: Topography, cartography, geodesy, and geomorphology. Second section: Human geography, ethnography, historical geography, biological geography, and economic geography.

History.—First section: Prehistory, pre-Colombian history and archaeology, history of the colonial epoch with investigations in libraries and archives, especially in Spanish and Portuguese. Second section: History of the American Revolution, history of the post-Revolutionary periods, organization of the library, a section of newspapers and periodicals, map collections and museum of the Institute as indispensable tools for the beginning of research work.

ART. 11. In special cases the president of the executive committee, the whole committee agreeing, can call an extraordinary general assembly if approved at

least by one-third of the Governments of the American States which are members of the Institute.

ART. 12. The program for each assembly should be drawn up by the executive committee, and notified 6 months in advance to the national committees.

ART. 13. No subject which is not in the program of the assembly's proceedings can be considered unless approved by at least two-thirds of the delegates to the assembly.

ART. 14. The resolutions, presented to the assembly, dealing with scientific matters can be approved by the vote of the majority of the delegations present; the resolutions of administrative nature need for their approval an affirmative vote of the majority of the delegations of the states members of the Institute.

ART. 15. The delegates will choose the sections to which they want to belong.

ART. 16. Each section shall elect a president and a secretary which shall function during the time the assembly lasts.

ART. 17. The scientific papers presented shall be judged in the corresponding sections and together with their appraisal shall be presented to the assembly for its decision. No paper of a political or sectarian nature can be accepted.

ART. 18. At each general assembly the annual budgets of the Institute for the ensuing period, between that assembly and the next, shall be approved.

ART. 19. The states members of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History shall contribute to its maintenance annual dues levied in the following way: Countries with less than 2,000,000 inhabitants, \$200; countries with 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 inhabitants, \$500; countries with 4,000,000 to 10,000,000 inhabitants, \$1,000; countries with 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 inhabitants, \$2,500; countries with 20,000,000 to 50,000,000 inhabitants, \$5,000; countries with 50,000,000 or more inhabitants, \$10,000.

For estimating the population, the official census presented by each Government when announcing the ratification of the congress resolutions shall be followed. These dues shall be changed according to the increase or decrease of the population.

ART. 20. Between assemblies the executive committee shall prepare its budget yearly. A financial committee, appointed by the general assembly, will be in charge of the study of that budget and the checking of the preceding year's accounts.

ART. 21. The funds received by the American States shall be distributed as follows: (a) administrative and publication expenses, (b) salary of the Institute's employees, (c) the balance shall be used with the approval of the executive committee for the carrying out of those field studies or research projects that are deemed necessary, (d) gifts shall be used in accordance with the instructions of the givers.

ART. 22. States members of the Institute can withdraw from it at any time, but have to pay their dues for the current fiscal year.

ART. 23. The national committees shall facilitate, coordinate, and publish in their respective countries those geographical or historical studies considered of principal importance from the point of view of the general interest of the Institute. Each national committee, alone or with other committees, has the right to submit to the consideration of the Institute matters of its concern.

ART. 24. The national committees shall be the advisors and intellectual directors of the geographical and historical services of each American State, if approved by the respective Governments.

ART. 25. The national committees shall report their activities annually to the Institute.

ART. 26. The bylaws of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History can be modified by the general assembly with the approval of two-thirds of the delegations of the States.

The modified assessments as indicated in the above bylaws affected the member States as follows:

States having less than 2,000,000 inhabitants of which there were 7, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, and Uruguay, will contribute \$200; States having 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 inhabitants, of which there are 7, Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, El Salvador, and Venezuela, will contribute \$500 annually; States of from 4,000,000 to 10,000,000 inhabitants, of which there are 3, Chile, Colombia, and Peru, will contribute \$1,000

annually; States having from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 inhabitants, of which there are 2, Argentina and Mexico, will contribute \$2,500 annually; States of from 20,000,000 to 50,000,000 inhabitants, in which class Brazil stands alone, will contribute \$5,000 annually; and States containing more than 50,000,000 inhabitants, of which the United States is the only one, will contribute \$10,000 annually instead of the sum of \$31,750, as assessed under the original budget. The total voted budget amounted to \$27,900. This diminution represents not only a smaller total budget but the proportionate share of the United States is also decreased to a more equitable figure.

The selection of Dr. Atwood as executive president for 3 years and Washington as the place of the next assembly, were spontaneous acts of the congress and were not prompted by the United States delegation.

In June 1934 Senate bill 3761 and House bill 9883 to authorize the appropriation of funds for the contribution of the United States to the Institute were introduced into the Congress but no action was taken before adjournment.



DRAFT OF A PROPOSED PROVISION MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000,000 TO CARRY INTO EFFECT THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR LOANS TO FARMERS FOR CROP PRODUCTION AND HARVESTING DURING THE YEAR 1935, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," APPROVED FEBRUARY 24, 1935.

FEBRUARY 24, 1935 - REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REFERRED TO THE HOUSE

The Warrent House
Washington, February 24, 1935

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:
SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress a draft of a proposed provision making available to the Farm Credit Administration the amount of not to exceed \$60,000,000 to carry into effect the provisions of the act entitled "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR LOANS TO FARMERS FOR CROP PRODUCTION AND HARVESTING DURING THE YEAR 1935, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," approved February 24, 1935.

This provision will enable the said \$60,000,000 to be made available to the Farm Credit Administration for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the act entitled "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR LOANS TO FARMERS FOR CROP PRODUCTION AND HARVESTING DURING THE YEAR 1935, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," approved February 24, 1935.

The \$60,000,000 referred to in the foregoing is to be available for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the act entitled "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR LOANS TO FARMERS FOR CROP PRODUCTION AND HARVESTING DURING THE YEAR 1935, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," approved February 24, 1935.

annually; States having from 10,000,000 to 25,000,000 inhabitants, of which there are 2, Argentina and Mexico, will contribute 27,500 and 28,000,000; States of from 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 inhabitants, in which class the United States alone will contribute 25,000 annually; and States containing more than 30,000,000 inhabitants, of which the United States is the only one, will contribute 210,000 annually instead of the sum of \$217,000 as proposed under the original budget. The total voted budget amounted to \$27,200. This limitation represents not only a smaller total budget but the proportionate share of the United States is also decreased to a more equitable figure.

The selection of Dr. Howard as a member of the commission for 1923 and Washington as the place of the first session, were spontaneous acts of the congress and were not proposed by the United States delegation. In June 1921, General Bill Dyer and James H. Doolittle authorized the appropriation of funds for the commission in the United States to the limit which was indicated into the budget but no action was taken before adjournment.

The first session of the commission was held at Washington, D. C., from June 10 to 15, 1921. The members of the commission were: United States, General Bill Dyer, Chairman; Argentina, General Juan Manuel de Rosas; Mexico, General Francisco I. Madero; Cuba, General Antonio Guiteras; and Venezuela, General Juan F. Gómez.

The commission met in session on June 10, 1921, at 10:30 a. m. in the Senate Chamber, U. S. Capitol Building, Washington, D. C. The first order of business was the reading of the report of the Secretary of the Commission, which was read by General Dyer. The report contained a list of the members of the commission and a statement of the work of the commission during the previous year.

The commission then proceeded to the election of a permanent secretary. General Dyer was elected to this position for a term of three years. The commission then turned to the consideration of the report of the Secretary of the Commission for the year 1920. The report was read by General Dyer and the commission then proceeded to discuss the report.

The commission then turned to the consideration of the report of the Secretary of the Commission for the year 1921. The report was read by General Dyer and the commission then proceeded to discuss the report. The commission then turned to the consideration of the report of the Secretary of the Commission for the year 1922. The report was read by General Dyer and the commission then proceeded to discuss the report.

The commission then turned to the consideration of the report of the Secretary of the Commission for the year 1923. The report was read by General Dyer and the commission then proceeded to discuss the report. The commission then turned to the consideration of the report of the Secretary of the Commission for the year 1924. The report was read by General Dyer and the commission then proceeded to discuss the report.